



State Capitol | Lansing, Michigan 48913
PH (517) 373.1801 | FAX (517) 373.5801
www.senate.michigan.gov/gop/senator/hardiman/

For Immediate Release
January 9, 2004

Contact: Kim Erdelyi
(517) 373-1801

Hardiman's bill to protect students and schools from MEAP mishaps is signed by governor

Lansing — Legislation introduced by state Sen. Bill Hardiman (R-Kentwood) to protect students and schools from being penalized if their Michigan Educational Assessment Program answer sheets are lost was signed by the governor yesterday.

“Students and parents should not be punished if their test scores are lost – that’s out of their control,” said Hardiman, sponsor of Senate Bill 787. “We worked hard for Michigan families to ensure that this legislation became law.”

The new law also will ensure that school districts are not unfairly penalized for missing tests results.

Nine school districts in Michigan have had some MEAP answer sheets lost, leaving educators and parents to worry the state could sanction them for not having test results for all students. About 3,400 answer sheets are missing statewide. Of those, about 1,000 are from Grand Rapids schools.

Under this law, schools will not be unfairly designated as unaccredited or as not maintaining adequate yearly progress as required by the federal No Child Left Behind Act because of missing results.

####